(d) Does not arise. However, Orders have been issued to treat the period of absence as dies-non and that it shall not entail forfeiture of past service.

Adverse Sex Ratio of Population in the Country

1111. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the sex ratio between men and women in the country has been falling since 1901 and it has come down from 972 females to 927 per 1,000 males;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the ratio of female mortality has been higher than that for men ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what measures Government have adopted to check the fall in population ratio and the mortality ratio of female ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) As per decinnial censuses conducted in the country, sex ratio (females per 1000 males) continued declining from 972 in 1901 to 927 in 1991 except small improvements registered in 1951 and 1981.

(b) As per the latest Sample Registration System (SRS) estimates available, the female mortality rate in 1989 has come down to 10.1 against 10.4 for males.

(c) and (d) The Government is undertaking several programmes focussing on the survival, protection and development of the girl child and to raise the status of women. A Bill entitled the Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill, 1991 has been introduced in the Lok Sabha to curb the misuse of techniques leading to female foeticide.

Additional Benefit to the Government Employees Undergone vasectomy Operation in 1975

1112. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government employees, who had gone for vasectomy operation in December, 1975, and fulfil the requisite conditions were are entitled for additional benefit of one increment and can avail the same now; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) In terms of the instructions contained in the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure O.M. dated the 4th December, 1979, the benefits are prospective.

Doctors Resentment over D.G.H.S. Selection

1113. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item published in the Hindustan Times dated 19-4-93 captioned 'Doctors sore' over D.G.H.S. Selection, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) in a recently given judgement had recommended to the Health Ministry that suitable amendments should be

made in the Central Health Service Rules regarding the method of appointment to the higher post i.e., of Additional Director General H.S.;

(c) whether it is also a fact that when the judgement was sent to the Law Ministry for necessary action it advised for amendment of the above mentioned rules and recommended that filling up the post of D.G.H.S. should be kept in abeyance till the amendments to the effect are made; and

(d) if so, what are the circumstances/reasons for holding a Department Promotion Committee meeting on 21-4-93 for only one candidate for the D.G.H.S. violating the advice of the Law Ministry and the CAT's ruling in this regard; and details thereof and reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) to (c) Two separate Departmental Promotion Committee proposals, one for filling the post of DGHS and a second for filling the post(s) of ADDITIONAL DGHS were under consideration with UPSC when Central Administrative Tribunal held that while recruitment rules for the post of DGHS were not ultra vires of Article 14 of the Constitution, the recruitment rules for the post of ADDITIONAL DGHS should be amended. The Law Ministry advised amendment of the rules for ADDITIONAL DGHS but did not recommend keeping in abeyance the filling of post of DGHS.

(d) Does not arise.

Homoeopathic Treatment for Cancer, AIDS, etc.

1114. SHRI IQBAL SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of new drugs in Homoeopathy are being discovered for the treatment of deadly diseases such as AIDS, Cancer, etc.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) The Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH) has undertaken research studies in Malignant diseases (Cancer) and HIV infection (AIDS). In the research studies certain new homoeopathic medicines are being clinically tried for HIV infection and the trials are in preliminary stages.

Blindings in U.P. Eye Camps

1115. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item captioned "Blindings in U.P. eye camps—Incompetence of doctors vendetta" as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 26th March, 1993;

(b) if so, whether the camps organised by Mohan Lal Memorial Gandhi Eye Hospital in some villages of Aligarh district have rendered people into blindness;

(c) whether the Central Government propose to send a Central Team to Aligarh to watch the functioning of the memorial hospital; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir.